



Attorney Docket No. F.007

2856

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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Charles D. Snelling
Leo T. Van Lahr

U.S. Application No. : 09/819,943

Filing Date : March 28, 2001

Title : Liquid Level Detector System

Group Art Unit : 2856

10.29.01

New York, New York
July 12, 2001

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir/Madam:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97, 1.98, please enter and consider for the above-identified application the documents listed on the Form PTO-1449, attached hereto as **Exhibit A**. Copies of the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 (**Exhibit A**) are attached hereto as the following **Exhibits**

23:

- Exhibit 1:** U.S. Patent No. 3,161,050, issued December 1964 to Exner;
- Exhibit 2:** U.S. Patent No. 3,461,446, issued August 12, 1969 to Sergeant;
- Exhibit 3:** U.S. Patent No. 3,696,675, issued October 10, 1972 to Gilmour;
- Exhibit 4:** U.S. Patent No. 4,036,053, issued July 19, 1977 to Jenkins and Certificate of Correction entered February 13, 1979;

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- Exhibit 5:** U.S. Patent No. 4,065,967, issued January 3, 1978 to Beeston;
- Exhibit 6:** U.S. Patent No. 4,089,209, issued May 16, 1978 to Grana et al.;
- Exhibit 7:** U.S. Patent No. 4,358,955, issued November 16, 1982 to Rait;
- Exhibit 8:** U.S. Patent No. 4,513,616, issued April 30, 1985 to Bezard et al.;
- Exhibit 9:** U.S. Patent No. 4,590,797, issued May 27, 1986 to Beaubatie et al.;
- Exhibit 10:** U.S. Patent No. 4,609,913, issued September 2, 1986 to Arbogast et al.;
- Exhibit 11:** U.S. Patent No. 4,665,385, issued May 12, 1987 to Henderson;
- Exhibit 12:** U.S. Patent No. 4,720,997, issued January 26, 1988 to Doak et al.;
- Exhibit 13:** U.S. Patent No. 4,774,838, issued October 4, 1988 to Rickson et al. and Certificate of Correction entered February 14, 1989;
- Exhibit 14:** U.S. Patent No. 4,796,471, issued January 10, 1989 to Sabin;
- Exhibit 15:** U.S. Patent No. 4,845,486, issued July 4, 1989 to Knight et al.;
- Exhibit 16:** U.S. Patent No. 5,023,806, issued June 11, 1991 to Patel and Certificate of Correction entered November 3, 1992;
- Exhibit 17:** U.S. Patent No. 5,092,170, issued March 3, 1992 to Hønstvet et al.;
- Exhibit 18:** U.S. Patent No. 5,174,153, issued December 29, 1992 to Nakano;

- Exhibit 19:** U.S. Patent No. 5,209,115, issued May 11, 1993 to Bond;
- Exhibit 20:** U.S. Patent No. 5,297,393, issued March 29, 1994 to Thompson;
- Exhibit 21:** U.S. Patent No. 5,323,652, issued June 28, 1994 to Parker;
- Exhibit 22:** "Accu-Level® Propane Tank Gauge", Hammerhead Tower, Inc., 1988-1996, 1 page; and
- Exhibit 23:** U.S. Patent Application No. 09/080,689 (Attorney Docket No. 1744-001) filed May 18, 1998, abandoned July 7, 1999.

The "Accu-Level® Propane Tank Gauge" (**Exhibit 22**) appears to disclose a gauge adhesively attachable to a propane tank.

Exhibit 22 appears to indicate that the gauge has a yellow color when cool, and an orange color when heated. **Exhibit 22** appears to state that the gauge is activated by pouring a cup of hot water on the gauge causing it to turn orange. **Exhibit 22** also appears to disclose that, within a few seconds of applying the hot water, the lower portion of the gauge below the surface of the propane returns to yellow.

The "Accu-Level® Propane Tank Gauge" (**Exhibit 22**) does not show or suggest the invention of the above-identified application because the claims of the above-identified application specify a sensor for generating a temperature signal, and a processor for receiving the temperature signal and generating an elevation signal indicative of the elevation of the liquid level.

Entry and consideration of the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 (**Exhibit A**) are requested to be indicated by the attached Form PTO-1449 (**Exhibit A**) being initialed by the PTO Examiner.

No fee is believed to be required for entry and consideration of the present INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT since it is being submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action for the above-identified application. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). However, should any additional fee(s) be deemed necessary, please charge such fee(s) to Deposit Account No. 08-2776 of the below-identified firm.

If the PTO Examiner has any questions about the above, Applicants' Attorney Gordon F. Belcher is requested to be contacted at the telephone number below. Additionally, please address all correspondence to the below-identified firm.

Please return the enclosed self-addressed postcard stamped by the PTO to indicate timely receipt of the present INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT.

Respectfully submitted,

By: Gordon F. Belcher

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Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

hereby certify that this paper entitled
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT and every
attachment and enclosure referred to therein,
including **Exhibit A** (PTO Form 1449) and
Exhibits 1 to 23 (references cited) are being
deposited with the United States Postal Service
as first-class mail, postage prepaid, in an
envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

on July 12, 2001
(Date of Deposit)

Rita Akgün
(Name of person making deposit)

Rita Akgün
(Signature)